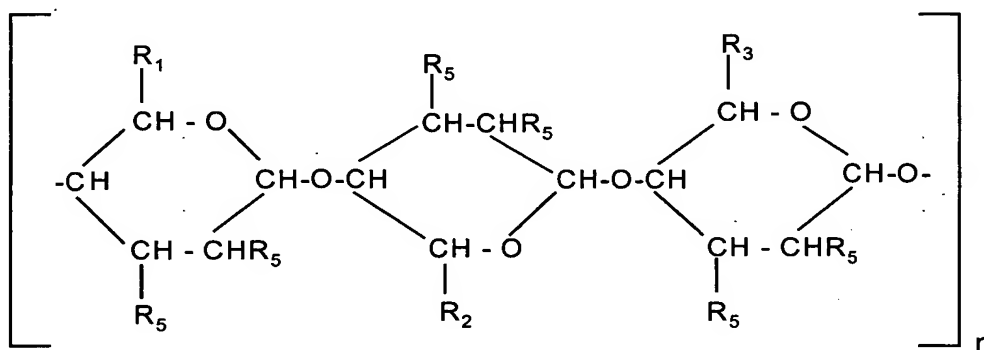


Amendments to the Claims:

1. (Currently Amended) A polymeric composition based on PVA, substantively composed of

- a) from 50 to 99.9% by weight of polyvinyl alcohol with an average MW of from 5 000 to 25 000 and with a degree of hydrolysis of from 79 to 99.9 mol%,
~~where the polyvinyl alcohol may contain carboxy groups or polyglycol units in the molecule, and~~
- b) ~~from 0.1 to 50% by weight, preferably from 0.1 to 15% by weight, and particularly preferably from 0.1 to 10% by weight, of one or more polysaccharides of the formula~~



where

R_1 , R_2 , R_3 are H, CH_2OH , COOMe , COOR_4 , CONHR_6 , or $\text{CH}_2\text{OSO}_3\text{Me}$,
and Me is Na, K, NH_4 , Mg, or Ca,

n is a number from 20 to 20 000, ~~preferably from 100 to 10 000, in particular from 1 000 to 9 000,~~

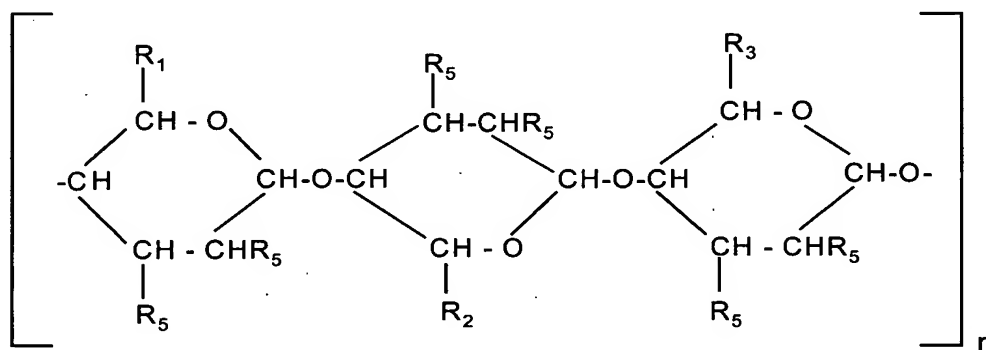
R_4 is C_1 - C_4 -alkyl, preferably methyl,

R_5 is OH, NHCOCH_3 , H or OCOCH_3 and

R_6 is H, COCH_3 , or C_1 - C_4 , ~~preferably methyl.~~

2. (Currently Amended) The polymeric composition as claimed in claim 1, ~~which also comprises~~comprising from 0 to 5% by weight of antifoam.
3. (Currently Amended) The polymeric composition as claimed in claim 1, ~~which also comprises~~comprising from 0 to 10% by weight of a surface-active compound.
4. (Currently Amended) The polymeric composition as claimed in claim 1, ~~which comprises~~comprising from 0 to 10% by weight of hydrophobicizing oils.
5. (Currently Amended) The polymeric composition as claimed in claim 1, ~~which comprises~~comprising from 0 to 3% by weight of modifiers or antifoam additives.
6. (Currently Amended) The polymeric composition as claimed in claim 1, ~~which comprises~~comprising from 0 to 30% by weight of plasticizer.
7. (Currently Amended) ~~The use of the~~A water insoluble capsule or film comprising a polymeric composition as claimed in claim 1 ~~for producing water insoluble capsules or films.~~
8. (New) The polymeric composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the polyvinyl alcohol contains carboxy groups or polyglycol units in the molecule.
9. (New) The polymeric composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the one or more polysaccharides are present from 0.1 to 15% by weight.
10. (New) The polymeric composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein the one or more polysaccharides are present from 0.1 to 10% by weight.
11. (New) The polymeric composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein n is a number from 100 to 10,000.

12. (New) The polymeric composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein n is a number from 100 to 9,000.
13. (New) The polymeric composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein R₄ is methyl.
14. (New) The polymeric composition as claimed in claim 1, wherein R₆ is methyl.
15. (New) A polymeric composition based on PVA comprising:
 - a) from 50 to 99.9% by weight of polyvinyl alcohol with an average MW of from 5 000 to 25 000 and with a degree of hydrolysis of from 79 to 99.9 mol%, and
 - b) from 0.1 to 50% by weight of one or more polysaccharides of the formula



where

R₁, R₂, R₃ are H, CH₂OH, COOMe, COOMe, COOR₄, CONHR₆, or CH₂OSO₃Me,
and Me is Na, K, NH₄, Mg, or Ca,
n is a number from 20 to 20 000,

R₄ is C₁-C₄-alkyl,

R_5 is OH, $NHCOCH_3$, H or $OCOCH_3$ and

R_6 is H, COCH_3 , or $\text{C}_1\text{-C}_4$.

16. (New) A water insoluble capsule or film comprising a polymeric composition as claimed in claim 15.